

### Data Validation Report

TDD No. 09–04-01-0011 PAN: 001275.0440.01TA

Site: El Dorado Hills, California
Laboratory: Asbestos TEM Laboratories, Inc.
Reviewer: Denise A. Shepperd, Trillium, Inc.

Date: July 5, 2005

### I. <u>Case Summary</u>

#### SAMPLE INFORMATION:

Sample IDs: JSG-S02-101004; JSB-S05-101004; JSG-S09-101004; JSS-S01-

101004; JSG-S01-101004; JSB-S07-101004; JSB-S01-101004; JSB-S101-101004; JSB-S02-101004; JSB-S03-101004; JSB-S04-101004; JSB-CS01-101004; JSS-S02-101004; JSS-S03-101004; JSS-S04-101004; JSS-S05-101004; JSS-S06-101004; JSS-S07-101004; JSS-CS01-101004; JSB-S06-101004; DPA-SA3-101104; DPA-S01-101104; DPA-SA1-101104; DPA-CS01-101104; DPA-S01-101104; DP

SA2-101104; DPA-S1A3-101104

Laboratory Blanks: LAB-BL01-101104; LAB-BL02-101104; LAB-BL02-101104;

LAB-BL03-101104; LAB-BL05-101104; LAB-BL06-101104; LAB-BL07-101104; LAB-BL08-101104; LAB-BL10-101104; LAB-BL11-101104; LAB-BL12-101104; LAB-BL13-101104; LAB-BL14-101104; LAB-BL15-101104;

LAB-BL16-101104

Laboratory Preparation Duplicates: LAB-DUP01-101104; LAB-DUP02-101104; LAB-DUP03-101104;

LAB-DUP04-101104; LAB-DUP05-101104; LAB-DUP06-101104; LAB-DUP07-101104; LAB-DUP08-101104; LAB-DUP09-101104;

LAB-DUP10-101104

Matrix: 26 Soil Samples; 16 Laboratory Preparation Blanks; 10 Laboratory

**Duplicates** 

Analysis: Asbestos by Polarized Light Microscopy

Method: NIOSH 9002

Collection Dates: October 10 and 11, 2004

Sample Receipt Date: April 15, 2005

Analysis Dates: April 28, 2005 and May 3, 2005

FIELD QC:

Trip Blanks (TB): None
Field Blanks (FB): None
Equipment Blanks (EB): None
Background Samples (BG): None

Field Duplicates: JSB-S01-101004 and JSB-S101-101004 and

DPA-SA3-101104 and DPA-S1A3-101104



TABLES:

1A: Analytical Results with Qualifications

1B: Data Qualifier Definitions for Inorganic Data Review

#### **SAMPLING ISSUES:**

Three chain of custody records received by the laboratory with the delivery of the samples included all of the samples identified in this data set. According to these records, the samples were collected on 10/10/04 and 10/11/04, but were not relinquished until 12/7/04. No indication is made of the disposition of the samples during this period of time and from the documentation provided, the custodian of the samples during this time cannot be determined. A second set of "relinquished and received" signatures appear for "all/return" of the samples; samples were relinquished on 3/11/05; no "received by" date or time were recorded for this transfer. A third set of relinquished and received signatures appears, both dated 4/15/05. There is no indication what this transfer represented on the COC records, however, the laboratory documentation indicates that the samples were received on 4/15/05 from FedEx. It is not clear how the samples were sent and received on the same day via FedEx. COC records should provide sufficient information (sampler initials, affiliations for all parties, and/or reasons for transfer) to support every transfer of the samples from the day of collection to the day of return or disposal. The COC documents included with these samples do not fulfill this purpose.

#### **VALIDATION PARAMETERS AND COMMENTS:**

### I. Holding Times, Preservation and Sample Integrity

This parameter is evaluated to ensure that sample custody is documented from collection through analysis, samples are analyzed within the recommended holding time, and that no alteration in sample content has occurred during sample shipment, handling, and storage.

There is no established holding time or storage condition for asbestos samples.

According to the laboratory log-in report, all samples were received in excellent condition from "the client."

#### II. Calibration

The analyses of materials of known content ensures that identification and quantitation of analytes will be accurate for all samples. Review of the documentation provided for appropriate calibration determines whether or not the analytical results reported by the laboratory are valid and supported by the data.

Asbestos TEM Laboratories, Inc., participates in NVLAP. Documentation of the laboratory's current certification for EPA Method 600/M4-82-020 and "relevant requirements of ISO 9002:1994," which include PLM analyses for solid materials, was included in the data package. The certificate is effective through the end of June, 2005. Should additional information regarding the laboratory's ability to accurately identify and quantify asbestos be desired, results and supporting data for samples from this PE program should be obtained from the laboratory.

Logbook pages including daily microscope checks for dates 4/25/05, 4/26/05, 4/27/05, 4/28/05, 5/3/05, and 5/4/05 were included. Analyses of the samples in this data set were performed on 4/28/05 and 5/3/05. Monthly dispersive oil calibration documentation was provided on a separate logbook page. According to the documentation the applicable calibration was performed on 4/12/05.



Two performance evaluation samples, prepared for this project by RTI, were submitted to the laboratory. The PE samples were analyzed on 3/4/05. No documentation of microscope or other QC checks was included with the PE sample data. Two sets of raw data were included, representing identification and visual estimation performed by two different analysts. The two PE samples were generated by RTI at two different asbestos concentrations. The first sample contained tremolite and chrysotile asbestos, each at 0.5% (1% total asbestos). The second contained each of these two asbestos types at 2% (4% total asbestos). The laboratory's results for total asbestos for these two samples were 5% and 14%, respectively. These are the only reference materials presented with this data set. The results the laboratory reported for these PEs are greater than three to five times the prepared concentrations, indicating the potential for high bias in positive results. Positive results for the samples in this data set were qualified as estimated (J) on this basis.

### III. Blanks

Sample matrices known to be devoid of the analytes of interest (method blanks) are prepared and analyzed with each analytical batch. Evaluation of this parameter ensures that contamination introduced during preparation and analyses is not attributed to the field samples. Other blanks may be generated in the field or laboratory to ensure that no contamination is introduced during sampling and/or storage.

A total of 16 laboratory blanks (all included in this data set, 049488) were prepared and analyzed with the sample batches associated with this data set (049351, 049352, 049487, and 049488) and represented both the drying and grinding steps of sample preparation. No asbestos structures were identified in any of these sixteen blanks. Two of these laboratory blanks, LAB-BL09-101104 and LAB-BL13-101104 were analyzed as laboratory duplicate pairs. Results for the duplicates in both cases were ND and <1%. Because results for all of the field samples were previously qualified as estimated based on the high bias observed in the reference material, no additional action was taken on the basis of laboratory blank results.

No field-generated blanks were included with this data set.

## IV. Spiked Samples

The analytes of interest are added in known concentrations to like-matrix blanks or authentic field samples before preparation. This parameter is evaluated in order to assess the laboratory's ability to preserve and recover the compounds of interest.

See Section II for a discussion of the PE (spiked) samples submitted with this data set.

No other spiked analyses were performed with this sample set.

## V. Duplicate/Replicate Samples

Results for duplicate/replicate samples are evaluated to assess the laboratory's precision for the analytes of interest in the applicable sample matrix.

Two field duplicate pairs (JSB-S01-101004 and JSB-S101-101004 and DPA-SA3-101104 and DPA-S1A3-101104) were included with this data set. Results for both of the pairs showed excellent agreement.

The laboratory analyzed 10 laboratory duplicate sample pairs in this data set. Seven of the ten duplicate pairs had identical results. LAB-BL09-101104 and its lab duplicate and LAB-BL13-101104 and its lab duplicate both gave results of <1% and ND. The laboratory reported ND for both of these samples (laboratory drying blanks). LAB-DUP06-101104 and its lab duplicate gave results of <1% and 1-5%. The laboratory reported a result of <1% for this sample. This sample (LAB-DUP06-101104) is also a laboratory preparation duplicate of DPA-SA3-101104,



which was reported with a result of <1%. Because results for all of the field samples in this data set were previously qualified as estimated due to the high based observed in the reference material, no additional action was taken on the basis of these laboratory duplicate or blank results.

The soil preparation laboratory prepared and submitted 10 preparation duplicates for analysis. All 10 of these duplicate samples were submitted, analyzed, and reported with this data set (049488). Six of these 10 pairs gave identical results. The remaining four duplicate pairs gave a result of <1% for one of the paired samples and 1-5% for the other. Because results for all of the field samples were previously qualified as estimated based on the high bias observed in the reference material, no additional action was taken on the basis of laboratory blank results.

#### VI. Identification

Identification of asbestos is dependent on sample preparation techniques, analyst training, instrument operation, and data interpretation. Comparison with results from known standards is used to evaluate the accuracy of the structure identification for field samples.

Chrysotile and tremolite asbestos were correctly identified in the PE samples (see Section II). Only actinolite was identified in the field samples. Identification was based on the various optical properties of the asbestos fibers and was correctly performed, based on review of the raw data. Values for the optical properties recorded by the laboratory on the PLM data sheets were identical for all samples in which this asbestos type was identified.

The laboratory passed the criteria for NVLAP, based on the documentation provided, however, no actual sample results or raw data for the analyses of NVLAP PE samples were provided.

Analysis of the project PE samples was performed by an analyst with the initials DV and a second whose signature was illegible. Analyses of the field samples were performed by analysts with the initials SF and MB. It is recommended that documentation be included in the data packages for each sample batch that support the correct identification of asbestos by the analysts who perform the analyses on the field samples.

### VII. Visual Estimation and Reported Detection Limits

Raw data documentation is reviewed to ensure that all reported results and detection limits are correctly calculated, accurately reported, and supported by the raw data.

The laboratory's results for the two PE samples provided in association with this project were within the acceptance ranges suggested by RTI, however, a consistent tendency toward over estimation was observed . RTIs suggested range for the first PE (0.5% each of tremolite and chrysotile) were 0.1 to 5% and 0.1 to 4%, respectively. The laboratory found 2% tremolite and 3% chrysotile. If reported in the same manner as the field samples, this would result in a reported total asbestos content of 1-5%. RTI's suggested range for the second PE (2% each of tremolite and chrysotile) was >1 to 10% for both asbestos types. The laboratory reported results of 6% tremolite and 8% chrysotile, a total asbestos content of 14%.

Field sample results for PLM analyses associated with this project were reported by the laboratory as ND (not detected), <1%, or 1-5% total asbestos by weight. None of the field samples were reported with concentrations higher than the range 1-5%. Both of the PE sample true concentrations fell within these ranges. In the case of both PE samples, the laboratory's reported values show high bias, exceeding the true values by factors of three to five. Based on the indications of high bias in the only reference material analyzed and professional judgement, the validator qualified all positive sample results as estimated (J). The data user is cautioned that these results are likely biased high.



# VIII. System Performance

This parameter is evaluated to ensure that the laboratory analytical systems were functioning properly at the time of analyses and that methodology appropriate to the analyses were followed.

The analytical system appears to have been working satisfactorily at the time of these analyses, based on the documentation provided in this data package shipment.

### IX. Documentation

Data and documentation completeness is critical in providing support for the reported results. Problems encountered with the nature or quality of the data package documentation are addressed.

The COC documentation included in the data package does not adequately support the custody of the samples in the data set.

### **COMMENTS:**

A. Based on the indications of high bias in the only reference material analyzed in association with this data set, and on professional judgement, the validator qualified all positive sample results for these samples as estimated (J). The data user is cautioned that these results are likely biased high.

This report was prepared according to the specifications of the analytical method, NIOSH 9002, Asbestos (bulk) by PLM, the document "USEPA Contract Laboratory Program National Functional Guidelines for Inorganic Data Review," 10/99, and Trillium, Inc.'s SOP No. 0497-06A, for Validation of Analytical Data: Inorganic Analytes.



### **TABLE 1B**

## DATA QUALIFIER DEFINITIONS FOR INORGANIC DATA REVIEW

The definitions of the following qualifiers are prepared in accordance with the document, "USEPA Contract Laboratory Program National Functional Guidelines for Inorganic Data Review," 2/94.

- U The analyte was analyzed for, but was not detected above the level of the reported value. The reported value is either the sample quantitation limit or the sample detection limit.
- L Indicates results which fall between the sample detection limit and the CRDL. Results are estimated and are considered qualitatively acceptable but quantitatively unreliable due to uncertainties in the analytical precision near the limit of detection.
- J The associated value is an estimated quantity. The analyte was analyzed for and was positively identified, but the reported numerical value may not be consistent with the amount actually present in the environmental sample.
- R The data are unusable. The analyte was analyzed for, but the presence or absence of the analyte cannot be verified.
- UJ A combination of the "U" and "J" qualifier. The analyte was analyzed for but was not detected. The reported value is an estimate and may be inaccurate or imprecise.